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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

8 December 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, AIR INTELLIGENCE DIVISION:

SUBJECT: Comments on CIA Report on "Military Aviation"

1. The CIA publication, "Military Aviation," a study of government policies and procedures in the [redacted] and the U.S.S.R., is primarily a quotation of materials furnished by the Offensive Air Branch. 25X1A6a

2. The U.S.S.R. section is a verbatim copy of the material submitted by OAB, with the exception that six paragraphs of material was omitted. These paragraphs were explanatory in nature and their omission does not detract from the completeness of the study. The OAB report to CIA made reference to AIS 45/2, "Soviet Air Force," (Secret) and the CIA editors extracted several paragraphs on Soviet training from this publication.

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3. The summary section of the CIA study is composed almost entirely of paragraphs taken bodily from the complete [redacted] reports prepared in OAB. The [redacted] has no changes to suggest, but the U.S.S.R. Section recommends the addition of a new paragraph on page 4 under "Relative Importance of Air in National Defense." In answering this particular question, the OAB wrote three paragraphs, only the first two of which were included in the CIA summary. Without the third paragraph, however, it is felt that the reader would obtain a false impression as to the current trend of developments within the Soviet Union. It is recommended, therefore, that the CIA be asked to include as the final sentence in its section of "Relative Importance of Air in National Defense" the following comment:

"Within the air force itself, it is believed first priority is being given to the development of an interceptor fighter force based on jet aircraft, and second priority to creation of an effective long-range bomber force."

E. E. COLESTOCK
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Chief, Offensive Air Branch

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